

INVESTIGATOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

National Park Service

All or some of the information provided may be available to the public

Reporting Year: 1994	Park: Shenandoah NP
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Permit#: SHEN1994AJKQ	
Park-assigned Study Id. #: unknown	
Project Title: Peregrine Falcon Recovery Project	
Permit Start Date: Jan 01, 1998	Permit Expiration Date Jan 01, 1998
Study Start Date: Jan 01, 1994	Study End Date Jan 01, 1994
Study Status: Completed	
Activity Type: Other	
Subject/Discipline: Ecology (Aquatic, Marine, Terrestrial)	
Objectives: Re-establish a closely related race of peregrine falcons into the historic breeding range of the extirpated <i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i> .	
Findings and Status: <p>One pair of adult peregrines were observed during the annual survey on a remote section of Old Rag Mountain. It was determined that the pair was incubating eggs at the site. The female had a green band on the left leg. Resource personnel and rangers monitored the pair's activity until approximate egg hatch when the adult pair abandoned the site. Personnel from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and SHEN climbed to the site and retrieved two unhatched eggs. They were collected for potential analysis. No further observations were made of this pair at this locality. Based on observations of the crevice where the eggs were placed, it is likely that abundant rainfall continually washed the eggs as it precipitated and flowed through the crevice; therefore, the adults were unable to properly incubate the eggs. Preliminary analysis of the eggs indicated that fertilization and embryonic development did occur. In late July, Park visitors reported adult peregrine falcons harassing visitors near a cliff on Stony Man Mountain. Investigations revealed a falcon nest with two chicks on the face of Stony Man Mountain. Efforts were made to secure the area from further potential disturbance. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service representative and SHEN personnel climbed to the nest and banded the chicks, approximately 24 days old, one female and one male. Daily observations were made on the activities of the pair and development of the juveniles. In late August, both young flew and began flight and hunting skill development. In late September, all four falcons had "peregrinated". The female of the pair had a green left leg band. The timing of the successful nesting and the fact that the two females (Old Rag and Stony Man) had a green left leg band, and both apparently laid two eggs in each locality suggests that this pair is the same that abandoned the Old Rag site and moved to Stony Man. Additionally, this female was later identified as a falcon that was "hacked" from Franklin Cliffs in SHEN during 1991. The male was banded on both legs, but not identified. This nest marks the first documented nesting of Peregrine falcons in the mountains of Virginia since the early 1960's and the first in the Park since the mid-1950's.</p>	
For this study, were one or more specimens collected and removed from the park but not destroyed during analyses? No	
Funding provided this reporting year by NPS:	Funding provided this reporting year by other sources:

2000	0
Fill out the following ONLY IF the National Park Service supported this project in this reporting year by providing money to a university or college	
Full name of college or university: n/a	Annual funding provided by NPS to university or college this reporting year: 0